

Appl. No.: 10/608,923
Amdt. Dated 11/09/2007
Reply to Office Action of 05/11/2007

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to Figs. 1, 2 and 4. These sheets, which include Figs. 1, 2 and 4, replace the original sheet including Figs. 1, 2 and 4. Fig. 1 has been amended to include descriptive labels, Fig. 2 has been amended to designate Fig. 2 as "Prior Art", and Fig. 4 has been amended to show S_o.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets (3)

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REMARKS

This amendment is submitted in reply to the Office Action dated May 11, 2007. Claims 1-20 currently stand rejected. Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication that claim 8 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants have amended independent claims 1 and 14 to incorporate the allowable subject matter of independent claim 8 (and intervening claims). Accordingly, claims 5, 7, 8 and 19 have been canceled. Applicants have also amended dependent claim 6 to correct its dependency in light of the cancellation of claim 5. Claim 20 has been amended to correct a typographical error. No new matter has been added by the amendment.

In light of the amendment and the remarks presented below, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of all now-pending claims of the present application.

Drawing Objections

Figs. 1, 2 and 4 stand objected to. In this regard, the Office Action asserts that Fig. 1 does not have descriptive labels, Fig. 2 fails to designate a legend such as --Prior Art--, and Fig. 4 fails to show S_o. Fig. 1 has been amended to include descriptive labels, Fig. 2 has been amended to designate Fig. 2 as "Prior Art", and Fig. 4 has been amended to correct an error by showing S_o. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the objection to the drawings be withdrawn.

Claim Objections

Claim 20 stands objected to for including a typographical error. However, as indicated above, claim 20 has been amended to correct the typographical error and thus, Applicants request withdrawal of the objection to claim 20.

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Claim Rejections - 35 USC §112

Claims 6 currently stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. Applicants respectfully traverse.

The Office Action asserts that neither the specification nor Fig. 4 (element 430) disclose that “the at least one S/P converter comprises a plurality of S/P converters” as recited in claim 6. However, Fig. 4 clearly shows that the S/P converter (430) comprises multiple S/P converters (three shown in the example of Fig. 4) in which each S/P converter corresponds to one of the resulting separate data streams. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that rejection of claim 6 is traversed.

Claims 1-20 currently stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being incomplete for omitting essential elements. Applicants have amended independent claims 1 and 14 to include the S/P converter and interleaver operations. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections of claims 1-20 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, are overcome.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §103

Claims 1-7 and 9-20 currently stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), as unpatentable over Abeta et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2001/0028637, hereinafter “Abeta”) in view of Hosur et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0152023, hereinafter “Hosur”). Claims 5, 7, 8 and 19 have been canceled, without prejudice, and thus the rejections of these claims are now moot.

As indicated above, Applicants have amended independent claims 1 and 14 to incorporate the allowable subject matter of independent claim 8 and the intervening claims 5 and 7. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 1 and 14 are patentable over Abeta and Hosur, either alone or in combination, by virtue of the inclusion of allowable subject matter into independent claims 1 and 14.

Claims 2-4, 6, 9-13, 15-18 and 20 depend either directly or indirectly from independent claims 1 and 14, respectively, and thus include all the recitations of their respective independent

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claims. Therefore, dependent claims 2-4, 6, 9-13, 15-18 and 20 are patentable for at least those reasons given above for independent claims 1 and 14.

Accordingly, for at least the reasons stated above, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections of claims 1-4, 6, 9-18 and 20 are overcome.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the remarks submitted above, it is respectfully submitted that the present claims are in condition for immediate allowance. It is therefore respectfully requested that a Notice of Allowance be issued. The Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney to resolve any remaining issues in order to expedite examination of the present invention.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR § 1.136(a), and any fee required therefore (including fees for net addition of claims) is hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 16-0605.

Respectfully submitted,



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ELECTRONICALLY FILED USING THE EFS-WEB ELECTRONIC FILING SYSTEM OF THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE ON NOVEMBER 9, 2007.
LEGAL02/30593134v1